

**Fairfax County Citizen Corps Council
Meeting Minutes for November 20, 2014**

6:48 – 8:30 PM

The November 20, 2014 meeting of the Fairfax County Citizen Corps Council was held at the Fairfax County Government Center in Conference Room 232. Vice-Chairperson Missy Tuttle-Ferrio called the meeting to order at 6:48 pm with 17 members and staff present. Introductions of attendees were made and a listing of those in attendance is included with these minutes.

Presentations:

Samantha Brann, Medical Reserve Corps Coordinator, provided an overview of the Ebola virus and the monitoring program which Fairfax County Health is currently engaged. Background information provided on the Ebola virus was that it is caused by infection with a virus which can then generate the disease in humans and some animals. The disease has a high mortality rate. The 2014 Ebola outbreak has impacted mainly the West Africa countries of Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone with some cases reported in Mali and the United States. Two imported cases of the disease have occurred by individuals who had contracted the virus in other countries and then traveled to the United States. Symptoms of the disease may appear anywhere from 2 to 21 days after exposure but average 10-12 days for most. In order for the disease to be transmitted, direct contact with blood or body fluids of a person who is sick with Ebola, objects like needles or syringes that have been contaminated with the virus, or direct close prolonged exposure to infected individuals without using personal protective equipment.

Preventative measures which individuals can take is to use normal sanitary precautions such as regular hand washing, get a flu shot, cover your cough, and notify health officials if you have been in contact with Ebola infected individuals. You can't get Ebola through air, water or food grown or legally purchased in the United States.

Individuals who are traveling from the affected countries are being screened at those countries' airports before leaving them. Approximately 94 percent of all travels who came to the United States from the affected countries arrived at the 5 airports which are engaged in a screening process before being allowed to clear the airport. The individuals are provided with a care kit which includes a thermometer, tracking log and symptom list. Individuals whose final destination is Fairfax County are monitored for 21 days after their arrival and are reporting daily to the Health Department with their temperature readings and any plans of travel. The exact number of monitored individuals was not available as it is a constantly changing number as the 21-day cycle continues. Individuals who arrive showing symptoms will be taken to designated hospitals for additional testing.

There was discussion regarding how previous regional experience with anthrax may have provided lessons learned for the handling of symptomatic individuals, quarantine situations and planning for incidents of this nature. Also discussed were the processes and procedures which have been revised with this round of the epidemic. Samantha provided some handouts on the topic and advised that additional information would be distributed at a later date.

Jeanne Sanders of Volunteer Fairfax (VF) provided an update to the District Meetings and Exercises that Volunteer Fairfax is coordinating with Faith Communities In Action and the Office of Emergency Management. The first meeting of the pilot program occurred on October 27th and was a seminar providing an overview of disaster operations in Fairfax County. The program is designed to engage organizations that are currently working with communities to assist in disaster recovery so to better coordinate their roles, resources and activities. The initial meeting generated connections between a number of groups who have transportation, food, and food distribution programs which have already identified those in the community who are in need.

The next part of the program will be a tabletop exercise where the groups will learn how their organizations can become engaged during a disaster event. The exercise will be held Wednesday, December 3, 2014 from 5 – 8 pm at the Heritage Building which is located at 7611 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, Virginia 22030.

The three districts identified to have the seminars and exercises conducted are Mason, Braddock and Sully. Information the upcoming events will be provided to Council members by staff. If you know of free meeting space that will accommodate about 100 people in the Sully District, let Volunteer Fairfax know. It is anticipated that funding will be sought to have the seminars and exercise events held in all nine of the districts but that will be determined later. There was interest expressed from district representatives to have the events in their districts and it was suggested to have listings of the participating organizations and their capabilities available to the Board of Supervisor's offices.

There also was discussion about the Senior Safety Seminar which had been done in Mason earlier this year and similar events are being planned for other districts next month but these events are separate from the Volunteer Fairfax meetings. The dates of these planned events will also be forwarded to members.

Old Business:

There were eleven voting members present which did not meet the quorum requirement of twelve so no official business such as approval of the minutes of the previous meeting occurred.

Committee Updates:

Grants: Coordinator Dave McKernan of Office of Emergency Management (OEM) advised the group that grant funding has been released to Fairfax County and the Board of Supervisors have approved the planned spending of the estimated seven million dollars. Organizations which have programs that they would like to utilize grant funding need to submit a program management plan which is reviewed by OEM and the State Administrative Agent (DC government) before any funding is released. Programs desired would be those which assist in furthering the disaster resiliency and safety of

Fairfax County. When a timeframe is available for submitting proposals, this information will be provided.

Membership: Jim Kirkpatrick reported that attempts continue to be made to have representatives for the affiliated organizations attend the Council meetings.

Member Updates - Board of Supervisor Representatives:

At Large: Andrew Levy reminded all attending that they actually have two elected Board of Supervisor representatives and requested that as events and activities are made known to be sure and notify their own Supervisor as well as Chairman Bulova's office.

Dranesville District: Wes Callender reported that the Senior Safety Seminars are being conducted in Herndon on December 5th and McLean on February 6th. He also mentioned recent reports from Houston, Texas about Uber services and reports of significant price increases being permitted as demand increases. Individuals reported paying rates that were excessive but legally were permitted. The reason for raising the topic at this time was that this practice could be an impact to visitors of the 2015 World Police and Fire Games so individuals should verify what prices they are agreeing to when making reservations for Uber rides.

Mason District: Brian Foley reported that he had attended the Mason District seminar on October 27th, found the information valuable and the interaction of various attending organizations very good. He will be attending the exercise event.

Springfield District: Jim Kirkpatrick indicated that he will be advising Supervisor Herrity about the various emergency preparedness events. Jim is hoping to have the sessions in his district and is encouraged by the efforts being made for emergency preparedness.

Sully District: Karrie Delaney offered her assistance to the Sully District meetings and suggested the Chantilly Library as a possible site for conducting the sessions.

Member Updates – Core Programs:

CERT: Missy Tuttle-Ferrio reported that the Fairfax County Community Emergency Response Team has had a busy second quarter with members participating in numerous outreach events. Session 89 is finishing their training and additional classes are beginning soon including a Teen CERT class. Program Manager Jeff Katz reported having done interviews on WTOP Radio and Fairfax County Channel 16 on CERT activities. There will be additional training opportunities starting in January 2015 as CERT members prepare for their involvement in the World Police and Fire Games.

Program Manager Jeff Katz reported that there recently were over 100 people engaged in four different CERT training classes. An exercise at the Lorton training facility generated approximately 170 volunteers, including 60 FEMA AmeriCorps personnel, who became “victims” for the event. Approximately 140 victims were rescued in the first hour of the drill which was quite a feat for the 60 people who were rescuers. Jeff reminded those attending that CERT classes can be brought to any group of 12 or more individuals who have a room to meet. Additional information can be found at the CERT website, www.fairfaxcountycert.org as well as Facebook and the blog.

Jeff reported other recent CERT activities included a Boy Scout Camporee at the Fire and Rescue Training Academy where over 110 Scouts were trained in emergency preparedness. A new program of providing CERT ID cards is being looked at for those individuals who have been active members and gone through a background check. (Background checks would be done every two years.) Also getting started is a program for CERT members who are interested in HAM radio activities to obtain their license, get linked to the ARES groups and see how this additional skill can be utilized.

Fire Corps:

Program Manager Jeff Katz gave the attendees an overview of how a true “Fire Corp” program doesn’t actually exist in Fairfax County but there are dedicated individuals who are volunteering hundreds of hours per year. The Fire and Rescue Department includes 12 fire stations which have volunteer organizations and there are currently 250 administrative personnel, 100 individuals who are certified as fire and EMS operationally qualified and 220 who are Emergency Medical Services only qualified. All of Fairfax County fire stations are staff by career personnel 24/7 and the volunteers are utilized to supplement existing staff.

MRC:

Tracey Serle of the Fairfax County Medical Reserve Corps has been engaged in flu vaccine distribution, Ebola education, and participated in the Great SouthEast ShakeOut in October. Volunteers have also been assisting with the Ebola monitoring process and conducted a workshop for childcare workers. Additional medical and non-medical volunteers are being sought.

Neighborhood Watch: Frank Vajda advised the group of recent vehicle larcenies and vandalism which has occurred in a number of neighborhoods. It is recommended that vehicles be locked, parked in well-lit areas and off the street if possible. In some of the larceny incidents, then entire ash tray was stolen as it is thought that the criminals find it easier to take the whole tray instead of just trying to remove valuables. Frank also suggested that individuals who have cars which utilize the electronic fobs to be sure to see if the location where they keep the fob in their residence is far enough away from the vehicle that the vehicle stays locked and alarms are activated.

Member Updates – Affiliated Organizations:

- Fairfax ARES: The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) is involved with the 2015 World Police and Fire Games planning and preparations. ARES will have members at the various venues and other event locations. A training session is planned for December 5th when an overview of the Emergency Operations Center will occur. Also, they have established a weekly network for contacts that will rotate to maintain their operational continuity.
- FCIA: Faith Communities In Action are preparing for Class Number 4 of Chaplain Corps members so if attendees know of a clergy member who would be interested, please let Tom Lambiase know so contact can be made. The faith communities are working on a program encouraging individuals to take care of themselves first so that they can be available to assist others. Also being done is an update to the Ready-Pack-Go program and the continuity of operations for organizations guide.
- Volunteer Fairfax: Jeanne Sanders, Executive Director reported that 5000 volunteers will be needed to assist with the 2015 World Police and Fire Games. They are looking to expand their current outreach and will be using various media in order to get the word out. They are looking for people to assist sports coordinators, welcoming visitors, transporting athletes, helping out behind the scenes as well as at the actual sports venues which will be all around the National Capital Region.

OEM Staff Report:

- The new grants manager is Kathy Doyle who will be managing all grant financials, reconciliation of general fund accounts, payroll and human resources processing.
- Core Program managers will be provided information in the near future about changes in tracking volunteers, volunteer capabilities, and use of grant funds. The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments is reviewing a broad number of programs to ensure that grant funds are being used as designated and for regional efforts.
- The Fairfax Alerts! emergency notification system now has over 35,000 subscribers.
- OEM Outreach staff have been engaged in a variety of events including;
 - Huntington Neighborhood canvassing event on October 18th where 268 residences were visited and the canvassers were able to talk with 91 residents. This was a joint effort between FEMA Flood Insurance, Fairfax County Stormwater Management, Volunteer Fairfax and Neighborhood and Community Services. Information was provided to all the homes on flooding, emergency preparedness, and other topics.
 - District Seminars and Exercises at the various locations.
 - Senior Safety Seminars that will be occurring over the next couple of months.
 - Many other events at various federal facilities, local festivals and others.

New Business:

- Dave McKernan briefly discussed a recent seminar that was held which reviewed the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting. The presentation provided further need for the coordination and interaction of the groups which are part of the Citizen Corps Council and the outreach which is generated to the community. The need to be aware of the capabilities of the different groups as well as using caution in what is requested during times of disaster was also discussed.
- A suggestion was made to develop a new member handbook which would assist individuals to become familiar with the workings of the Council, an idea of how different groups can interact and assist each other as well as providing some basic acronyms and abbreviations. Vice-Chairperson Tuttle-Ferrio indicated that she would share the idea with Chairperson Sobecke for additional action.
- Topics of interest for future meetings included having representatives from various utility providers share their continuity of operations plans, Freedom of Information Act requirements, a follow up presentation from World Police and Fire Games staff and planning for doing a Ready-Set-Know Festival again in 2015.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 22, 2015 at 6:45 pm at the Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Room 9/10.

General Meeting – Sign In

NOVEMBER 20, 2014

| Name | Organization Represented | Initial |
|------------------------------|--|---------|
| Allegra, Jay | Neighborhood Watch | X |
| Bornmann, Al * | Mount Vernon District | |
| Brann, Samantha | Medical Reserve Corps | X |
| Braxton, Mary * | Virginia Alliance of Family Childcare | |
| Callender, Wes * | Dranesville District | X |
| Cantagallo, Mike * | American Red Cross | |
| Cockayne, John * | Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations | |
| Delaney, Karrie * | Sully District | X |
| Drost, Peggy (*Alternate) | Faith Communities In Action | X |
| Ewing, Lawrence * | United Way | |
| Foley, Brian * | Mason District | X |
| Galliere, Susan (*Alternate) | Virginia Alliance of Family Childcare | |
| Grapin, Mark * | Boy Scouts of America | |
| Hale, Judith * | Salvation Army | |
| Katz, Jeffrey | Community Emergency Response Team & Fire Corps | X |
| Kirkpatrick, Jim * | Springfield District | X |
| Lambiase, Tom * | Faith Communities In Action | X |
| Levy, Andrew * | At-Large | X |
| Lyttle, Matt | NoVa Regional Voluntary Organizations Active In Disaster | |
| Mitchell, Marc | Volunteers In Police Service | |
| Moon, Mary (*Alternate) | Amateur Radio Emergency Services | X |
| Nieman, Charlene * | CrisisLink | |
| O'Leary, Bonnie * | Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf & Hard of Hearing | |
| Olds, Bowman * | Fairfax Joint Local Emergency Planning Committee | |
| Potter, Alan * | Providence District | |
| Robinette, Amelia * | Fairfax County Council of PTAs | |
| Sanders, Jeanne * | Volunteer Fairfax | X |
| Serle, Tracey * | Medical Reserve Corps | X |
| Sobecke, James * | Braddock District | |
| Stokes, Shawn * | Fire Corps | |
| Tuttle-Ferrio, Missy * | Community Emergency Response Team | X |
| Vajda, Frank * | Neighborhood Watch | X |
| Webber, Mark * | Fairfax County Amateur Radio Emergency Service | |
| Wheeler, Jennifer * | Volunteers In Police Service | |
| | ALSO ATTENDING | |
| McKernan, Dave | Office of Emergency Management | X |
| Sherick, Dean | Office of Emergency Management | X |

* Indicates voting member